



Fact Sheet:



Youth Development Technical Assistance and Training Services

Overview:

The California Department of Alcohol and Drug Programs' *Youth Development* is a comprehensive strategy designed to assist communities and schools further strengthen their youth-based approaches of asset building, resiliency and youth development. The Department in collaboration with individuals and organizations throughout California is challenging communities and schools to shift their focus from youth as problems to youth as resources.

Goals and Objectives:

The design is to assist communities and schools in furthering their plans to become healthier places to raise children – fostering resiliency and becoming more intentional in assisting youth to become healthy, caring, responsible, productive members of society. Young people need:

- environments where adults care about them, listen to them and guide them;
- safe places to explore new and challenging ideas, thoughts, and concepts; and,
- opportunities in their communities, congregations, schools and families to explore, to lead, to be responsible, to try, to fail, to achieve, to be independent and to feel valued and important.

Training and Support:

The Department's interagency agreement with Saddleback College provides training in Youth Development principles and practices at ten state community college

sites throughout the year. The program, "Developing Capable Young People" is modeled after the successful curricula "Developing Capable People" by Dr. Stephen Glenn, imparting skills and knowledge that encourage youth to engage in positive, healthy lifestyles and behavior. The initial through advanced level trainings emphasize, to those interacting with youth, the need for self-assessment, control and discipline in working with others and in developing friendships. This in turn fosters strong judgement skills to make decisions based on morals, ethics, values and wisdom. Site-specific technical assistance is available as a follow-up to the training to support the efforts of local organizations to develop and implement policies and services that advance the youth development philosophy.

Year 2002 Projection:

We are projecting that a minimum of 1,500 youth workers will be trained and certified in Youth Development theory and practice – 1,000 in the initial training, and 500 in the advanced phase. For information on this project – including a schedule of trainings and workshops – visit the Department's web site at <http://www.adp.ca.gov>.